THE HONORABLE THOMAS S. ZILLY 1 2 3 4 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 5 FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON 6 7 BUNGIE, INC., a Delaware corporation, Cause No. 2:21-cv-0811 TSZ 8 **Plaintiff** 9 **DEFENDANTS' OBJECTIONS** TO COURT'S PROPOSED 10 v. **JURY INSTRUCTIONS 16,** 16(a) AND 16(b) 11 AIMJUNKIES.COM, a business of unknown classification; PHOENIX DIGITAL GROUP 12 LLC, an Arizona limited liability company; JEFFREY CONWAY, an individual; DAVID 13 SCHAEFER, an individual; JORDAN GREEN, an individual; and JAMES MAY, an individual, 14 Defendants. 15 16 Defendants Aimjunkies.com, Phoenix Digital Group LLC, Jeffrey Conway, David 17 Schaefer, Jordan Green and James May, through their undersigned counsel, hereby object to 18 proposed Jury Instructions 16, 16(a) and 16(b) for reasons stated herein. 19 "DEFENDANTS' PROFITS" IS THE SOLE MEASURE OF DAMAGES TO BE PURSUED BY BUNGIE AT TRIAL 20 At this late stage, Plaintiff Bungie, Inc., has confirmed on several occasions that it is 21 no longer seeking statutory damages and that "Defendants' Profits' is the sole measure of 22 damages to be pursued by Bungie at trial. 23 Following the pre-trial conference held on November 17. 2023, Bungie, in an email to 24 Defendants' counsel dated November 21, 2023 (true and correct copy attached as Exhibit A), 25 stated that Bungie no longer sought to include Mr. Nate Buckmiller as a witness for Bungie at 26 27

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trial. Mr. Buckmiller was originally proposed as a substitute witness to testify regarding, in part, "the harm caused by cheat software, including Defendants' Cheat Software, to Bungie."

Later that day, this Court later confirmed having received Bungie's indication that neither Mr. Buckmiller nor Mr. Hodgson, who Mr. Buckmiller was intended to replace, would be witnesses at trial (Exhibit B). On November 27, 2023, Counsel for Bungie confirmed that, "Defendants' profits will be the only claimed damages at trial" (Exhibit C).

In light of these clear, repeated statements, it is beyond dispute that Bungie has represented and agreed that "Defendants' Profits" would be the *sole* measure of damages it would pursue at trial.

### THE PROPOSED INSTRUCTIONS GO BEYOND "DEFENDANTS' PROFITS"

Proposed Instructions 16, 16(a) and 16(b), as written, not only address but permit the jury to award "actual damages" beyond the "Defendants' Profits" Bungie has previously stated and agreed would be the sole measure of potential damages.

In particular, proposed Instruction 16 states, in part, that should Bungie prove copyright infringement, "Bungie is entitled to recover any 'Actual Damages' and any profits of such Defendant or Defendants attributable to the infringement."

Meanwhile, Proposed instruction 16(a) describes in detail "actual damages" that Bungie has already indicated it is not seeking.

Finally, Proposed Instruction 16(b) states, in part, that, "In addition to 'Actual Damages,' the copyright owner is entitled to any profits of the Defendants attributable to the infringement. You may not include in an award of profits any amount that you took into account in determining 'Actual Damages.'"

Because Bungie is *not* seeking "actual damages" in this case and has clearly indicated that, "Defendants' profits will be the only claimed damages at trial," Proposed Instructions 16 and 16(b) should be modified to eliminate any reference to "actual damages," while Proposed instruction 16(a) should be deleted in its entirety as being redundant and unnecessary.

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#### PROPOSED REVISIONS

In view of the foregoing, Defendants respectfully request that Proposed Instruction 16(a) be stricken in its entirety, and that Proposed Instructions 16 and 16(b) be revised and rewritten to remove references to "actual damages" as follows:

# **Proposed Instruction16 (revised):**

"It is the duty of the Court to instruct you about the measure of damages. By instructing you on damages, the Court does not mean to suggest for which party your verdict should be rendered. If your verdict is for Bungie on its copyright infringement claim as to a Defendant or Defendants, Bungie is entitled to recover any "Actual Damages" and any profits of such Defendant or Defendants attributable to the infringement.

It is for you to determine, based upon the evidence, what damages, if any, have been proved. Your award of damages must be based upon evidence and not upon speculation, guess, or conjecture."

## **Proposed Instruction 16(b) (revised):**

"In addition to "Actual Damages," the copyright owner If your verdict is for Bungie on its copyright infringement claim as to a Defendant or Defendants, Bungie is entitled to any profits of the Defendants attributable to the infringement. You may not include in an award of profits any amount that you took into account in determining "Actual Damages.""

(Remainder of Proposed Instruction 16(b) unchanged.)

#### **CONCLUSION**

Because Bungie is seeking on "Defendants' Profits" in this action and is not seeking any "actual damages" beyond such profits, it would be confusing and inaccurate to provided instructions to the Jury regarding "actual damages" Bungie is not seeking and no longer is free to seek.

For these reasons, Defendants propose and ask that Proposed Instruction 16(a) be stricken in its entirety, and that Proposed Instructions 16 and 16(b) be rewritten as proposed to

| II. |  |
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| 1   | remove any unneeded and improper references to "actual damages." Such action by this |
| 2   | Court is respectfully requested.   |
| 3   | Dated December 4, 2023.  |
| 4   | /s/ Philip P. Mann   |
| 5   | Philip P. Mann, WSBA No: 28860<br><b>Mann Law Group PLLC</b>                         |
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